IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE REQUESTED FILING OF RULE 1.53(B) CONTINUATION PATENT APPLICATION BASED ON THE FOLLOWING PENDING PRIOR PATENT APPLICATION:

In re Application of: Gregory E. Sancoff et al.

Serial No.: 09/705,997 Filing Date: 11/03/00

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PLACING

MULTIPLE SUTURES

Group Art Unit No.: 3765

Examiner: Amy B. Vanatta

Attorney's Docket No.: ONUX-6

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AFFIDAVIT VERIFYING APPLICATION

Commonwealth of Massachusetts County of Middlesex

I, James A. Sheridan, being duly registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, and being duly sworn, depose and state that: I am attorney of record in the above-identified pending prior application Serial No. 09/705,997, filed 11/03/00, and that the enclosed application is a true and complete copy of the prior application Serial No. 09/705,997 as filed, and that no amendments referred to in the oath or declaration filed to complete the prior patent application Serial No. 09/705,997 introduced new matter therein.

James A. Sheridan

Registration No. 43,114

Sworn to before me this 26th day of January, 2004.

Notarv Public

My commission expires: 4/17/09